

Remarks

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. Claims 1-22 have been allowed, but formal corrections were required pursuant to *Ex parte Quayle*. The undersigned thanks the Examiner for his consideration of this application during the telephonic interview of July 19, 2005 wherein the amendments herein were discussed and approved by the Examiner.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 8, 11, 12 and 15 herein. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to delete the “may be” limitation, which had not previously been given patentable weight. Accordingly, the claim scope, as examined, has not been altered, and Applicant respectfully submits claim 1 is allowable. In addition, claims 11 and 12 have been amended to recite the “may be” limitation as a positive limitation. Because those claims depend on allowable claim 1, they are also allowable. *See* MPEP § 2143.03; *In re Fine*, 837 F.2d 1071 (Fed. Cir. 1988). Claim 8 has been amended to remove the reference numeral “1” for which antecedent basis was lacking. Claim 15 has been amended to delete the hyphens introducing claim limitations. In light of the foregoing amendments, Applicant respectfully requests a prompt Notice of Allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees (or credit any overpayment) associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and such fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Shulman', written over a horizontal line.

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Dated: July 19, 2005